

OUR JOURNAL DEPARTMENT  
HAVING been REPLEN-  
ISHED with a large as-  
ortment of the latest EUROPEAN  
and AMERICAN NOVELTIES,  
we are prepared to execute  
orders for FANCY WORK with  
care and dispatch, and at  
very moderate rates.  
CHINA MAIL OFFICE.

# The China Mail.

THE HONGKONG CHINESE MAIL  
報日字華香  
(HONGKONG, 11, The Tel. P.)  
ISSUED DAILY.  
Circulation 10,000.  
Manager and Publisher,  
SHEWAN TOMES & CO.  
Subscription:  
Five Dollars a year, deliverable in Hong-  
kong. (Postage paid) 1/4 per annum,  
including postage.

Established February 1845.

No. 10,969

號五十月四年八十九百八千一英

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 1898.

日五廿月三年戌戊

PRICE \$2.50 PER MONTH.

## Business Notices.

FINE OLD



SCOTCH WHISKY

GREENLEES BROTHERS,  
Glasgow & London.

SOLE AGENTS:

FLETCHER & Co.,

THE PHARMACY, HONGKONG.

THE PUNJON MINING COMPANY,  
LIMITED, (IN LIQUIDATION).

NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF  
'PREFERENCE SHARES.'

THE ACCUMULATED DIVIDEND  
from 1st Oct. 1897, to 1st Nov.  
1897, on the  
'PREFERENCE CAPITAL'  
of the above Company (in Liquidation)  
has this day been declared, and will be  
PAYABLE at the HONGKONG AND SHANG-  
HAI BANKING CORPORATION, on and after  
WEDNESDAY, the 13th April, 1898, and  
those SHAREHOLDERS whose names appear  
on the 'Register' on the 15th November,  
1897, are hereby requested to apply for  
DIVIDEND WARRANTS to the Under-  
signed at his Office, No. 9, PRAYA Cen-  
tral, Hongkong, as no Dividend Warrants  
will be sent out.

JAMES B. DUNOAN,  
Liquidator of the  
Punjon Mining Co., Ltd.,  
Hongkong, April 12, 1898.

NOTICE TO AMERICAN CITIZENS.  
AMERICAN CITIZENS residing in the  
CONSULAR DISTRICT OF CANTON, which  
includes SHANGHAI, WUHSOW, MACAO,  
SWATOW, HONGKONG and PEKING, are  
REQUESTED to REGISTER at this Consulate  
either Personally or by Certificate setting  
forth the Date and Place of Birth and last  
Residence in the United States.  
The Advantages of Registration are ob-  
vious and may prove of value in time of  
need.  
There is no fee or charge for Registration.  
EDWARD REDDIE,  
U. S. Consul,  
USERS STAFFS CONSULATE,  
Canton, China, 1st Feb., 1898.



WANTED.

IN QUEEN'S ROAD WEST, and at  
KOWLOON, Premises suitable for  
POST OFFICES. Reply giving Particulars  
as to Rent, Accommodation, and  
necessary alterations to the Postmaster  
General.  
Hongkong, April 12, 1898.

KELLY & WALSH, LTD.

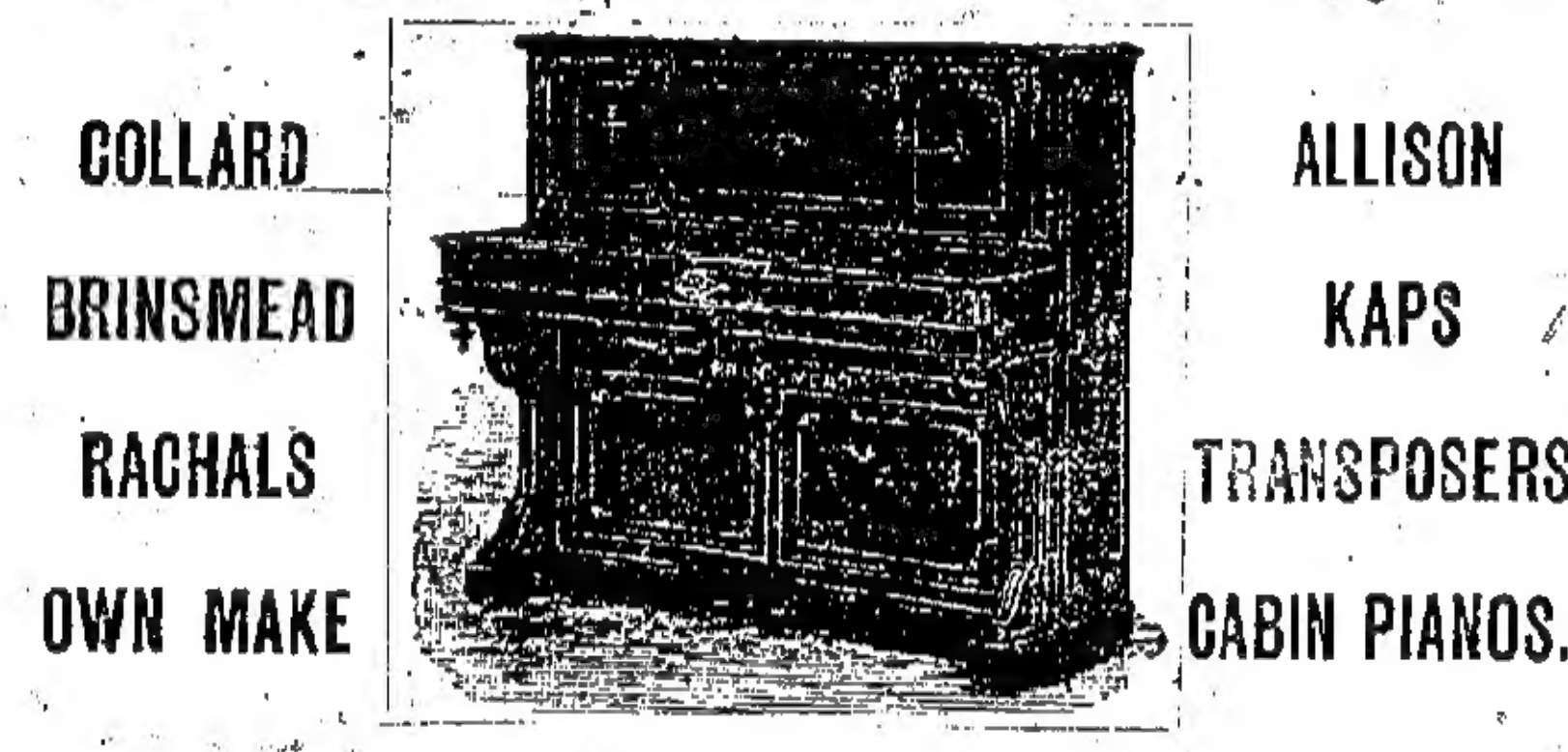
LADIES' BICYCLES.  
SOLE AGENTS FOR STANLEY'S CELEBRATED  
'PSYCHO' BICYCLES.  
CYCLEALITIES.  
Just Received  
'KING OF THE ROAD' LAMPS.  
'TOURER' LAMPS.  
'KINGLET' LAMPS.  
THE 'KING OF BELLS'.  
LUBRICATING OIL.  
'BRITENWHITE' LAMP OIL.  
MIDGET REPAIRING OUTFITS.  
'LUCUSINE' CHAIN LUBRICANT.  
VALVE TIGHTENING &c., &c.  
KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED.  
Hongkong, April 11, 1898.

THE  
MICASTOS FACTORY.

Mr. C. HOLDSWORTH,  
Superintendent at Works, Sackville Road,  
Hongkong.

THE GENERAL MANAGERS are prepared  
to enter into Contracts for COVER-  
ING ROILERS and STEAM PIPES with  
either MICA or ASBESTOS COMPOSI-  
TIONS at the following quotations:  
55 Cents per superficial square foot for  
Boilers.  
60 Cents per superficial square foot for  
Steam Pipes.  
Exposed Steam Pipes needing extra  
Wrapping and Canvas and the Dressing  
will be treated with the above Compositions  
at \$1.05 per superficial square foot.  
A Stock of the Compositions is kept ready  
for sale packed in 5 cwt. casks. Price for  
on lot \$100 per ton F.O.B. or in smaller  
quantities at \$200 per ton F.O.B.  
All works will be under the personal super-  
vision of Mr. HOLDSWORTH, and all Orders  
must be sent through the undersigned.  
SHEWAN TOMES & Co.,  
General Managers.  
Hongkong, February 14, 1898.

ROBINSON PIANO COMPANY.



HIGH QUALITY, LOW PRICE.  
EASY MONTHLY PAYMENTS.

PEAK HOTEL.

1350 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL adjoining the Tramway Terminus, FINE HEALTHY  
situation, Commanding Magnificent View of the City and Harbour, the Mainland  
Well-appointed Rooms, attentive Service and excellent Cuisine.  
J. MACDONALD, Chef de Cuisine. GEO. J. CASANOVA, Manager.  
'ORANGE BURN' will be open on June 1st; for Rooms apply to Manager, Peak Hotel,  
City Office, No. 7, Duddell Street.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM  
NAVIGATION COMPANY

WILL dispatch VESSELS to the Undermentioned PORTS on the DATES	FOR.	STRASBURG.	CAPTAIN.	DATE.
LONDON, &c., &c.	Chusan	Star	Star	16th April.
SHANGHAI, &c., &c.	Canton	D. C. GAZCOO, R.M.S.	Star	16th April.
SHANGHAI, &c., &c.	Canton	F. N. TIGHE, R.M.S.	Star	16th April.
SHANGHAI, &c., &c.	Canton	S. D. BLOOMER, R.M.S.	Star	17th April.
LONDON, &c., &c.	Manila	R. L. HADDON, R.M.S.	Star	28th April.

See Special Advertisements.

For Freight or Passage, and further Particulars, apply to

H. A. RITCHIE, Sup.intendent.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office,  
Hongkong, April 12, 1898.

ALHAMBRA FACTORY,  
MANILA CIGARS.  
THE DUC DE MONTEBELLO  
CHAMPAGNE.  
HARVEY'S ROYAL TAWNY PORT.  
Hongkong Agent—W. HUTTON POTTS,  
OFFICE: DAILY FARM BUILDING,  
Below Glenelg.

COTTAM & Co.

(JUST RECEIVED)

TOWNEND'S SUN HATS.

CALCUTTA PITH HATS.

STRAW HATS & TWEED CAPS.

W. HUTTON POTTS.

OFFICE: DAILY FARM BUILDING, Below Glenelg.

CLUB WHISKY AT \$12.00 PER DOZEN.

Try it and if you know anything about Whisky you will be satisfied.  
Brighten other brand is kept in stock at prices ranging from \$7.00 to  
\$18.00.

H. PRICE & Co.,  
No. 12, Queen's Road Central.

FUJIYAMA & Co.

DEALERS in all kinds of JAPANESE  
CURIOS.

At MODERATE PRICES.  
No. 9, D'Almeida Street,  
Head Office, No. 42, Sakamotoh, 1-Chome,  
Kobe.

Ganghong, February 11, 1898.

SHEWAN TOMES & Co.,  
General Managers.

Hongkong, December 24, 1897.

## Business Notices.

BELL'S ASBESTOS EASTERN AGENCY, Ltd.,

HONGKONG HOTEL—PRAYA.

SOLE EASTERN AGENTS FOR:

ALUMINIUM & GENERAL FOUNDRY CO. LTD., NEW WIRE ROPE ROOFING CO.  
SNOWDON SON'S & CO., 'SNOWDRIFT', GRIFFIN'S STEAM TRAP.  
BERGER & SONS' LTD., PAINTS & VARNISH, TIGER BRAND & M. THERIERS' STEEL GOODS.  
W. WILSON COBBER, (SATURN AND SCANDINAVIA BELTING).  
Bell's Packings and Jointings are used by the British, French,  
Russian, Italian, Swedish and Spanish Navies, also by  
Principal English, Colonial and South American  
Railway Companies.

KINGHORN & MACDONALD,  
MANAGERS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

TAILORING DEPARTMENT.

This Department is now under the Personal Supervision of  
Mr. BOFFET, who has again entered our employ.

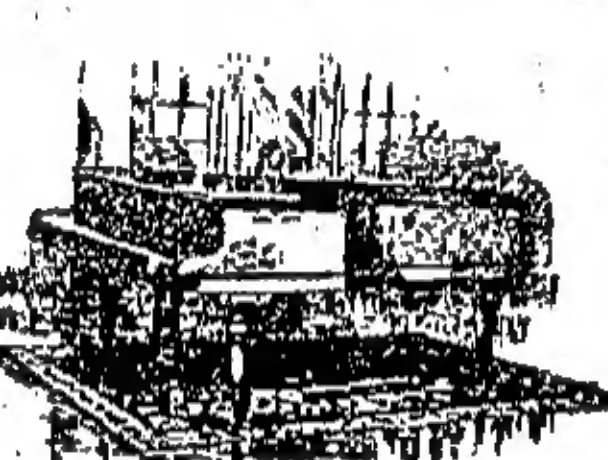
We are just in Receipt of New Goods for the coming Season of

THE BEST QUALITY ONLY.

They include:—Thin Flannel Tweeds, Cashmeres, &c., for  
SUITINGS; Thin Black and Blue, and FANCY COATINGS for  
DRESS, &c.

P. RAMATTA AND DRILLS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.



BROADWOOD PIANOS

NEW MODELS

MONTHLY PAYMENTS.

Lane, Crawford & Co.

## LADIES

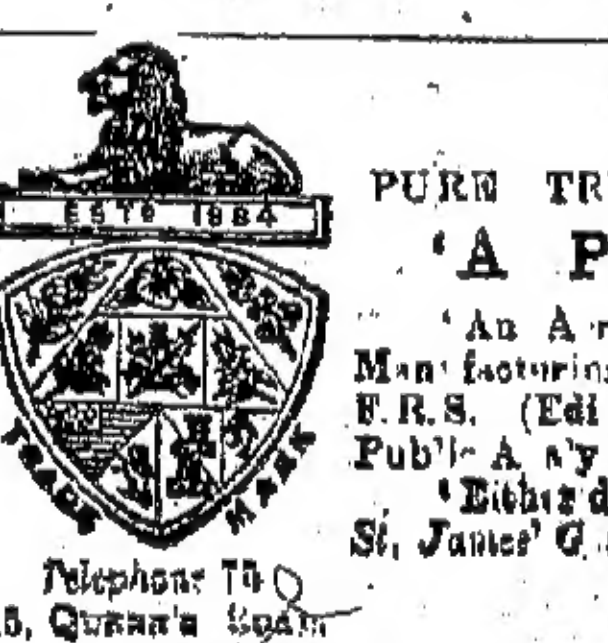
From the PEAK, KOWLOON, and OUTLYING DISTRICTS, the City can get

AFTERNOON TEA

AT THE

HONGKONG HOTEL

in the READING ROOM, where the MATRON is in attendance Daily.



AQUARIUS

PURE TREBLE DISTILLED WATER ONLY USED.

'A PERFECT TABLE WATER.'

An Award Water of the Highest quality both from a  
Manufacturing and Sanitary point of view. — JOHN MORRIS, Ph.D.,  
F.R.S. (Ed.), London, (President of the Society of  
Public Analysts of Great Britain).  
'Bottle drink no water at all or drink only this distilled water.'  
St. James's Palace, London.  
Galdbeck, Macgregor & Co.,  
Agents: AQUARIUS COMPANY.

W. POWELL & Co.

Ex: S. S. FORMOSA.

A SPLENDID ASSORTMENT

NEW MILLINERY.

W. POWELL & Co.

Hongkong, April 5, 1898.

ASK FOR FERGUSON'S

P. & O.

SPECIAL LIQUEUR, 10 YEARS OLD

HIGHLAND WHISKY.

FERGUSON'S

SPECIAL CREAM

BRECKENBURN HIGHLAND WHISKY.

These are the finest productions of Scotland,  
and devoid of all deleterious matter.

THE CREME DE LA CREME OF

WHISKIES.

PURE AND MILD.

Sole Importers,

F. BLACKHEAD & Co.

THE

VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

DAKIN'S ANKER-POND LIVER AND LUNG BALSAM.

For the Relief of all CATARRHAL COMPLAINTS, such as COUGHS, COLDS,  
HOARSENESS, and SORENESS OF THE THROAT.

PRICE 50 CENTS AND \$1.

CRUIKSHANK'S COUGH BALSAM.

For COUGHS, COLDS, HOARSENESS, INFLUENZA, ASTHMA, CONSUMPTION, HOARSENESS, COUGHS,  
BRONCHITIS, and all Diseases of the THROAT AND LUNGS.

PRICE \$1 per Bottle.

VICTORIA DISPENSARY,  
QUEEN'S ROAD.

## Business Notices.

Don't be Blind

to your Own Interests

BUT FREELY USE

PROFESSOR TUSON'S

LIQUID DISINFECTANT.

A PERFECT DISINFECTING FLUID (Soluble in Water).

More Powerful than Pure Carbolic Acid.

A Sure Preventive of all kinds of Contagious Diseases.

Is a most Powerful Insecticide, Germicide, and Disinfectant.

SOLE AGENTS: WATKINS & Co.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO.,

LIMITED.

FIRE-CLAY WORKS, DEEP WATER BAY, HONGKONG.

CEMENT FACTORY, GREEN ISLAND, MACAO.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

GLAZED STONEWARE DRAIN PIPES AND FITTINGS, GLAZED PAVING,

BRICKS AND TILES, FIRE BRICKS AND FIRE CLAY,

&c., &c.

For Prices and further particulars, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., General Managers.

NAVY LEAGUE.

MR. J. J. FRANCIS, Q.C., has kindly

consented to deliver a Lecture

upon 'The Life of Nelson and the

Lesson to be learnt from it,' in the City

Hall, on MONDAY, the 18th of April,

at 7.30 P.M.

C. G. HAYES, R.N., will take the

Chair.

The General Public are invited.

HENRY E. POLLOCK,

Secretary.

18 BANK BUILDINGS,

18th April, 1898.

DEVONIAN SOCIETY, HONGKONG.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the above

Society will be held at the HONG-  
KONG CLUB on SATURDAY, 23d April.

Devotees desirous of joining the Society

to apply to the Undersecretary.

R. K. LEIGH,

Under Secretary.

Hongkong, April 14, 1898.

NOTICE.

LOYD'S REGISTER OF BRITISH

AND FOREIGN SHIPPING,

9, PRAYA CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

DURING my Temporary Absence from

the Colony, Captain EDWARD

BURNIE (of Messrs. BURNIE and

GODDARD) is Authorised to conduct the

Business of the Society at this Post.

NEWMAN MUMFORD,

Surgeon to Lloyd's Register.

Hongkong, April 9, 1898.

THE HONGKONG STEAM LAUNCH

COMPANY.

LAUNCHES FOR SALE OR CHARTER.

LAUNCHES FOR HIRE FOR FISHING, SHOOT-

ING, BATHING PARTS, ETC., ETC.

Specifications and Drawings for the

Building of Launches, Tugs, Canoes, Wrecks

Boats and Small Craft of every Des-

cription.

For Particulars apply to the Company's

Engineer, 10, PRAYA CENTRAL.

A. G. GORDON,

General Manager.

Hongkong, April 1, 1898.

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

APPLICATIONS for the post of

STEWARDS in the above Club will

be received by the Undersecretary.

C. H. GRACE,

Secretary.

Hongkong, March 31, 1898.

GREAT EASTERN AND CALEDONIAN

GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that a CALL

of \$1 per SHARE has been made in

respect of the SHARES in the above-named

Company not fully paid-up, and that such

call is PAYABLE on the 2nd May next to

the Company's Bankers, THE HONGKONG

and SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,  
Hongkong.

LUTGENS, RINGMANN & CO.,  
General Agents,  
Hongkong, March 31, 1898.

E. F. CARMICHAEL,  
Consulting Engineer and Surveyor,  
10, PRAYA CENTRAL.

NEW AND SECOND-HAND LAUNCHES FOR SALE

DESIGNS and Specifications for all

Classes of Steamships, Launches and

specialty. New Work and Repairs super-  
vised.

Telegrams: 'CARMICHAEL' Hongkong.  
Telephone No. 111.

H. K. CARMICHAEL,  
Hongkong, March 24, 1898.

AMERICAN SYSTEM  
OF  
DENTISTRY.  
AT  
30, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.  
HEADQUARTERS.  
(Late of PRYOR & ROSS).  
Hongkong, July 12, 1897.







For his services at Kiao-shan, Dr. Stuebel, German Consul-General at Shanghai, has received the Prussian Order of the Crown, second class.

In obedience to a command issued from H.B.M. Consulate at Wuchow, Mr. T. S. Woods left the s.s. *Ching Po* on the 11th inst., and Captain Marsh is now in possession of the wreck.

Cable Hertz entertained a crowded house at the Canton Club theatre last evening. He returns to Hongkong to-morrow to give his final entertainment at the Theatre Royal, when a special farewell programme is announced. Reduced prices will be charged.

The Tientsin Spring Race Meeting will be held on the 16th, 17th and 18th May. The programme contains twenty-three events, and the Derby is the second event on the second day of the meeting. Entries close at 2 p.m. on April 23rd, and ponies will be measured at the race-course on 25th April.

An influential representative committee of all nationalities, with Sir Nicholas Hannan in the chair, has been formed at Shanghai to arrange for the reception of H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia, by the general foreign community. It is proposed to tiffin him at Chang Sa-ho's Garden on the 19th inst.

The Water Police are very actively engaged in placing vessels arriving from infected ports into the quarantine ground, for medical inspection, and during the twenty-four hours ending six o'clock last night twenty-two vessels, including steamers, launches, junks and one torpedo-boat, from Canton and Macao, were placed in quarantine.

Yesterday afternoon, a Chinese woman was crushed to death by the fall of a large boiler in a quarry at Ma San Ho, Shaokwan West. The woman, who was about twenty years of age, was picking up stones in the quarry, when a large piece of decomposed granite, weighing several tons, crashed down and crushed the woman to death.

El Comercio of the 1st inst. reports the murder of a priest named Moisés Santos, near the town of Malolos, in the Province of Bulacan. The Father had gone there on the 13th March to resign his charge before taking up a vicarage at Manila. After visiting his colleague who was proceeding in a carriage to the railway station, and after passing a small bridge was set upon by three armed men, who had evidently been lying in ambush awaiting him. Two of the men held the horse, and the third stabbed the priest in the breast. He expired in a few minutes. The murderers are still at large. It is believed that vengeance prompted the deed.

Sir Nicholas Hannan, Arbitrator in the famous Cheek case at Bangkok, has decided in favour of the Cheek estate, to which the Siamese Government has to pay Ticals 700,000. The late Dr. Marion A. Cheek, an American citizen, under agreement, received advances from the Siamese Government to enable him to work important tea concessions in Northern Siam. In 1892 the Siamese Government seized Dr. Cheek's property in satisfaction of their claims against him, alleging that he had broken his agreement, in particular by failing to pay the stipulated interest on the money advanced. This Dr. Cheek contended was a violation of his treaty rights, and the dispute then commenced that was terminated only last year with the arrangement to come to between the American and Siamese Governments to refer the matter to the arbitration of Sir Nicholas Hannan, one of the highest authorities on questions of extra-territoriality.

In the Chinese Recorder for the month of April there is a long appreciation of the work of the Berlin Founding House in Hongkong, by Rev. J. W. Davis, D.D. As a member of the Bible Revision Committee, Dr. Davis visited Hongkong in the early part of the present year, and had abundant opportunities of studying the way in which the Founding House was conducted. He speaks in terms of the highest praise of the Rev. T. Kriele and Mrs. Kriele, 'the Housefather and House-mother,' and of Miss Süssow, who has been in Hongkong thirty years, Miss Borbin and Miss Grotendorf, and Miss Bindow, who assist in the management of the House. The following pleasing paragraph occurs in the course of the article:—'While I was there a Chinaman, Mr. Wong, came with his wife, and was conducted through the institution. He noticed the maps on the walls of the schoolroom, particularly the map of Canton province. He questioned the girls, and was amazed to see how well they had been taught. He was greatly pleased to see these German ladies giving their lives to this work, doing it in person, and just before leaving gave them two hundred dollars to meet current expenses.'

A T. train was, a few days ago, put in circulation the following notice on Batou Renter's cable service:—

The Rev. Hon. Mr. Carrington has declared there is no wish in the report that H.M.S. *Rattler* had purchased three pieces of Chinese junk with which to make a demonstration in the Gulf of Pechili. 'Lord Salisbury is declared by his physician to be suffering from "ump," but Abel has promised to play for Surrey.'

Waltz by A. G. Ward, the Echo—Robinson Piano Company.

The number of cases of plague reported during the twenty-four hours up till noon yesterday was 18, and 13 deaths occurred during that period, bringing up the total number of cases reported from the commencement of the year to 417, and the total number of deaths to 363.

A Peking correspondent writes to the *China Gazette* that Chingwen, the new Treaty port, is situated close to Shanghai, at the entrance to the Gulf of Pechili. During the winter, when the Pei-ho is closed to trade, letters are sent from the South to Peking by way of Chefoo and Chingwen, which is an ice-free port.

We are requested to publish the following telegram received by the Hongkong Government:—

Rangoon, 13th April, 1898.—Colonial Secretary, Hongkong: Hongkong, Macao, and Canton declared infected ports under quarantine regulations framed under Venice Convention for Borna ports; request that shipping firms may be informed accordingly. Letter follows.—SECRETARY.

Vessels at the Dock.—At Kowloon: Vessels, H. J. G. M. S. Deutschland, H.L.G.M.S. Kaiserin Augusta, Holstein, Hanio.

Aberdeen.—(None).

Cornopolian.—Coptic, Chortai.

SUPREME COURT.  
IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.  
(Before His Hon. Sir John Carrington, Chief Justice.)  
Friday, April 15.

E. A. HARRISON v. E. R. BELLIOUS.  
The hearing of this case was resumed. Mr. Coutts, accountant, gave evidence of certain transactions between the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and the defendant. Mr. H. Michael, a member of the firm of J. R. Michael, and formerly employed as bookkeeper with Mr. Bellious, said at the time he left the employ of the defendant's firm, in April 1894, there were 300 shares in the China, Japan and the Straits Banking Co. registered in his name, but the property of the firm. On leaving, he received a letter from the firm stating that if he allowed the shares to remain in his name the firm would undertake to pay immediately on instructions from him. In that effect, Messrs Bellious paid all calls on these shares as agreed, and either last year or the year before these shares were transferred out of his name into the name of Mr. E. J. Moses, a clerk in the employment of the defendant's firm.

THE OPENING UP OF CHINA.

A Peking correspondent writes to the *N.C. Daily News*:—

The Peking news is startling, so startling indeed as to be scarcely credible. A very eminent politician is said to be under censorial impeachment on a charge of high treason of a peculiarly gross and heinous nature. The penalty of decapitation is said to have been pronounced on his own head if he fails to make good his charge. This has been current in foreign circles for some days, but strange to say, natives usually well informed know nothing of the matter until they got it from us. The more cautious among us are in a state of disbelief which borders on Pyrrhonism; we remember that we have had rumours of this kind ever since the battle of Yala, and we also are in possession of some facts which, in the peculiar position of affairs in Peking, would form a foundation for a superstructure of lies and ribble. The official in question, recently transferred some years ago, very unparliamentary advice to the Minister Kwang Hui, the latter waxed indignant and angry, and we know the petulance of King-ear gives occasion to the rage of faction and the spite of rival courtiers. Imperial displeasure, even if momentary, would be an adequate motive to bound on one's Censors and to give rise to alarming misrepresentation of fact; but more of this anon.

We hear much of heroic advice given in Peking to the desperate sickness of the Chinese body politic, none other than the following:—'The Chinese body politic is itself no new thing; to my knowledge it is as more than once commended to Li Hung-chang in the palm days of his power, and if I mistake not by Gordon on the occasion of his last visit. From the Western point of view its wisdom is obvious enough, in the common privileges of all would be the best safeguard from the aggression of one, but its adoption and practice would not be altogether an easy matter. It implies radical change to make while little change comes, a complete volte-face in public thought and administrative practice, and a vista of endless troubles between ignorant officials and enterprising foreigners. To the ignorant and self-conceited bureaucracy of the capital, such a suggestion must come as if they bottom of their mental universe had fallen out, and therefore it is not to be wondered at that the keenest and most determined opposition has been offered.'

Local Composers, 6 Pieces, by Orange, Wats, &c. Xmas 1897. Price, \$1.00. Robinson Piano Company.

We understand (says the *N.C. Daily News*) that M. Dautremere, French Consul at Hankow, has decided with the chirality of his nation, not to make the English owners of a part of the so-called French concession at Hankow sue him in the French Consular Court, but to sue them in the British Consular Court for the sum of Tls. 200,000 or about, the precise ground of the claim not being yet stated, as far as we understand. M. Dautremere's action is the more outrageous as he will not only have to give his own costs but he will have to submit to the jurisdiction of the British Court.

According to a native official report the terms of the lease of Biao of Port Arthur include a clause by which the Chinese will be allowed to continue their military school for the instruction of 'braves' established since the retrocession of the Peninsula by the Russian Government. Both the schools will be under the instruction of officers of Russian officers, but the Commissioner will be a Chinese man. Another clause is that if China should require the use of the docks for her warships the Russians are to effect every facility 'as if the place was under the Chinese authorities.'—*N.C. Daily News*.

RUETER'S TELEGRAMS.  
[SUPPLEMENT TO THE 'CHINA MAIL']  
LONDON, April 13th, 1898.  
SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.  
A CONFIRMATION.

Both Committees reported in favour of immediately requesting Spain to withdraw from Cuba, and instructing the President to use the forces of the United States to secure the independence of the island.

(El Comercio.)

UNITED STATES AND CUBA.

The Ambassadors of the European Powers have asked Spain to grant an armistice in Cuba, and the European Powers have also asked the President of the United States Republic to withdraw his squadron from the Cuban waters, and not to allow intercourse between United States and Cuba.

WEATHER REPORT.

The following notice is issued from the Observatory:—  
On the 15th at 11.40 a.m. The barometer has fallen on the China coast. Pressure remains low over N. China, and highest over the Pacific to the S. of Japan. Gradients slight. Forecast:—light varying winds; fair.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

ANNUAL INSPECTION.

The annual inspection of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps was made yesterday afternoon at the Military Parade Ground by H.K. Major-General Black, C.B., Acting Governor. The Corps mustered at Headquarters to the number of 10 officers, and 124 non-commissioned officers and men. The strength of the Corps is 177, and 20 men were absent on leave and 4 on medical certificate. The Corps marched to the Parade Ground, headed by the drum and fife band. There was a large attendance of ladies and gentlemen. H.E. the General Officer Commanding arrived on the ground at 6 o'clock, and was received with a general salute. Several interesting manoeuvres were then gone through.

At the close, H.E. Major-General Black, said:—'Sir John Carrington, and men of the Hongkong Volunteers, this is the end of the military year, or rather it is, more politic for me to say this is the beginning of the military year, when every man must in the year to come to the third year. I have had the privilege of inspecting the Volunteers, and as I told you before, and as you know, it is no longer the part of the General Officer inspecting to speak in too high terms, to be somewhat of the citizen soldiers who have come forward at some considerable expense of personal liberty and convenience to do their duty as soldiers. It is no longer a part of the General's duty to over-praise, but it is certainly part of his duty to speak in commendatory terms of his duty. It is not from the appearance of the Corps today I have gathered my opinion of it, because during the whole of the year the Corps has been more or less under my observation. The main duty of a soldier is to do those who are opposed to him, and drill is after all the more means of getting your weapons ready, they be rifles or guns into the best position. Here, on our mountain slopes, there is not much room for manoeuvring guns. To get the guns in position you must proceed generally by sub-divisions or single guns to the spot selected, and there manoeuvres as you have seen. Therefore drill is not so important here as it is in the open country. There are here very few opportunities for drill; if we except the open space of ground near Kennedy's Stables there is no place where guns can manoeuvre—they will walk up the Happy Valley—and you are thrown back on the sloping ground. Your drill was efficient and good today. I noticed a slight mistake which Sir John, I think, felt more deeply than I, a slight mistake due to the absence of some of the officers and non-commissioned officers. Otherwise the drill was good, and men who voluntarily haul their guns—I was going to submit myself to the number of pounds weight—up these slopes, are deserving of high praise. The Volunteers have turned out well; they are well dressed, and have every element of cleanliness and smartness on parade. They stand well in the ranks, which is a very good thing. I have one word to say with regard to giving commands. The battery commander in giving commands must always give a caution. If he simply shouts out the word of command there is a doubt in the minds of the soldiers as to whether the command is a caution mistle or a direct command. A caution mistle always precedes the word of command. But this drill, as I said before, is after all a secondary part of the business; it is only the means to an end. What you have to do is to learn to smite your enemy, and from what I have seen myself, and from what I know of your practice, I think that it is good, and I think the Hongkong Volunteers need not be ashamed of the appearance they have made. It does not do to give too much laudation. There are a good many of the Corps absent, and on the day of inspection they should have made an effort to attend. The only personal blot is on the public that there are so few of you, not personally, I do not blame you so much. The War Office thinks there is want of zeal in the community. But many who have been through the ranks have done their part, and if need be they will come and offer their services again. This is so far good, but all this more credit is due to your gentlemen, your men of the Hongkong Volunteers, for going through the work, preparing to meet the enemy that may never come. I congratulate you, Sir John, and I hope at the next inspection the General Officer Commanding will be able to speak as handsomely of the Corps as I have.

The Corps afterwards marched to Headquarters, where Major Sir John Carrington intimated that H.E. the General had asked him to say that he had omitted to mention that the men had drilled better than they had on any previous inspection at which he had been present. The Corps were then dismissed.

For the past quarter of a century there has been one continuous flow of letters bearing testimony to the truly wonderful character of the Chinese people. The Chinese people have been brought to light. Sufferers from Scour, Cholera, Dysentery, and other diseases, and from all kinds of blood diseases, Plagues and other diseases, have been brought to light. Sufferers from Scour, Cholera, Dysentery, and other diseases, and from all kinds of blood diseases, Plagues and other diseases, have been brought to light. Sufferers from Scour, Cholera, Dysentery, and other diseases, and from all kinds of blood diseases, Plagues and other diseases, have been brought to light.

The President thought some of the cases might have come from the South to Kowloon. When Swatow was declared an infected port last year people came from Swatow to Kowloon. He moved that the districts of Kowloon, Yuenai, and Kowloon Point be declared infected with bubonic plague.

Dr. Clark responded.

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THE THREATENED EPIDEMIC OF PLAGUE.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SANITARY BOARD.

A special meeting of the Sanitary Board was held yesterday afternoon to consider (1) the advisability of declaring Chinese Kowloon, and the out-lying districts, Yuenai, Kowloon, and Hunghom, as places infected with plague; (2) to consider the regulations to be enforced for controlling the removal of plague patients from this colony.

There were present: the President, Dr. J. M. Atkinson (Principal Civil Medical Officer), Hon. F. H. May (Captain Superintendent of Police), Mr. A. W. Brewin (Acting Registrar General), Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works), Mr. N. J. Ede, and Dr. Francis Clark (Medical Officer of Health and Acting Secretary).

The President, having stated the business before the meeting, said he had a return from Dr. Lawson from which it appeared that there had been six cases of plague notified this month from three districts. Personally he thought that was quite enough to justify them in declaring these districts infected with bubonic plague. With reference to Chinese Kowloon, reports had been circulated amongst the members containing an account of the which had been taken to the Hospital there last Sunday. He thought that report proved conclusively that there had been a great deal of plague there.

Mr. Ormsby asked if these cases were residents of those villages, or not, and Mr. Clark said they were from Hongkong. He thought a great deal depended upon that. The President stated where the cases had been found, all the cases coming from the localities named.

Dr. Clark said that from Kowloon during the last days of April there had been 12 cases, so that the plague had increased very rapidly. Only 3 of these cases had been reported from Chinese territory this year, the remaining 20 cases being from British Kowloon.

The President said that the cases had been mentioned were cases taken from Kowloon to the Hospital. In addition there were 13 bodies which had passed through the public mortuary from Kowloon of which the cause of death has been given as plague by Dr. Lawson.

Other bodies found on the Kowloon side of the Harbour in an advanced stage of decomposition were also supposed to be cases of plague.

Mr. Ede—With regard to the districts in British territory the declaration that they are infected with plague means that we shall close them and so on?

The President—House-to-house visitation.

Mr. Ede said that with regard to Chinese Kowloon he supposed it meant medical inspection of those who came from there. They might declare these places infected, and the next question was—What steps are you going to take? It took a half about five and thirty minutes to come from Chinese Kowloon to Hongkong, and he believed that the boats would be very busy in the year to come.

Mr. Ede said that the man who was taken to the Hospital last Sunday was a Chinese coolie who had been working in the morning and was busy all day. He had one boat with some 1,200 Chinese coolies to deal with. An examination of them was utterly impossible, he said.

The President said that correspondence was now going on between himself and the Government with reference to further medical assistance for this work, so he thought they might rest assured that if further medical assistance was required it would be provided.

Mr. Ede said it would take a very long time to examine all the people who came over.

The President said there would be very few people coming over the first few days after medical inspection had been instituted.

Mr. Ede said the period of incubation was six to nine days, and if a patient was not near enough the time at which the plague developed for it to be discovered when he passed here, he questioned whether the inspection would have the effect they desired.

The President reminded Mr. Ede of the Chinese passenger who died on the *Frederick* from the plague the other day on the way from Canton to Hongkong.

Mr. Ede said that that was one case out of a million.

The President—But you said you would waive there would be no case.

Mr. May said they had the experience of 1894. They had two deaths then and they found no plague patients. He thought himself that was a time waste. There was far more need to work to be done.

The President—By whom?

Mr. May—By the same doctors.

The President—We have not got the doctors; we have to get them for a special work.

Mr. May—But when you do get them.

The President—But we shall not have them at all unless we have some special work for them to do.

Mr. May said they would be doing more useful work in taking precautions in other ways.

The President thought it was the duty of the Sanitary Board to prevent the introduction of plague into the colony. They knew plague existed at Chinese Kowloon, and he thought it was their duty to declare it an infected port. Whether medical inspection was of use or not was another question.

Mr. Brown—What does that commit us to?

The President—To nothing, only until we have declared it an infected port we cannot have any further measures.

Mr. May—There are two plague cases from Kowloon now that are a lot of difference.

The President said that from the evidence before them there were more than one or two cases there. There were 30 at least in the place.

Mr. May—What do they come from?

The President—I don't know.

Mr. May—Most have come from Hongkong.

Mr. Brown—I cannot say where they have come from.

Mr. May said he was as a positive fact that some of the cases had come from Hongkong. A launch which he put on the look-out for cases found three cases going to Kowloon from Hongkong within 48 hours. The officers did not turn them back. They took their names and sent them on.

The President thought some of the cases might have come from the South to Kowloon. When Swatow was declared an infected port last year people came from Swatow to Kowloon. He moved that the districts of Kowloon, Yuenai, and Kowloon Point be declared infected with bubonic plague.

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<b>SANUKI MARU.</b> W. OWAKURA.	<b>YOKOHAMA (DIRECT).</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY.</b> April, at 4 p.m.
<b>OMI MARU.</b>	<b>NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKO.</b>	<b>MONDAY,</b> 26

C. YOUNG,	HAMA.	April, at 4 p.m.
TAMBA MARU, H. BARKES,	MARSEILLES, LONDON and ANTWERP. Via SHANGHAI. (Transshipping Cargo for Java Ports) PERANG COLONZO & PONT SAID.	THURSDAY, April, at 4 p.m.
XANASH ROMARU, J. JONES,	SYDNEY and MELBOURNE, Via THE BRADY ISLAND, TOWNSVILLE and BESSIEBAE.	FRIDAY, 26th, at 4 p.m.

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**A. S. MIHARA, Manager,**

Hongkong, April 14, 1898.

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